State of California The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



SEPTEMBER 2002 OFFICE REPORT

ON

THE INSPECTION OF FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT CHANNELS ON THE SACRAMENTO AND SAN JOAQUIN RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES AND THE TRUCKEE RIVER

Prepared By The Flood Operations Branch Flood Project Inspection Section

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CONTENTS

PAGE	
OrganizationContents	ii iii 1
Authorization for Inspection	
Chapter I – Project Channels Inspected on the Sacramento River and Tributaries	
Ash Creek-Modoc County	3
Dry Creek-Modoc County	7
McClure Creek	10
Salt Creek	14
Big Chico Creek	18
Lindo Channel and Sandy Gulch	23
Little Chico Creek	28
Chapter II – Project Channels Inspected on the Truckee River and the Fairfield Vicinity S Truckee River	34 39 42 46
Chapter III – Project Channels Inspected on the San Joaquin River and Tributaries	
Bear Creek	50
Black Rascal Creek	56
Burns Creek	60
Mariposa Creek	62
Miles Creek	66
Owens Creek	70
Ash Slough	73
Berenda Slough	77
Chowchilla River	81
Fresno River	86
North Littlejohn Creek	90
Duck Creek Diversion	93
South Littlejohn Creek	96
South Littleighn Creek, North Branch	100

INTRODUCTION

This is a report of the inspection of flood control project channels on the Sacramento, San Joaquin rivers, their tributaries and the Truckee River. These inspected channels are not confined by project levees. The purpose of the inspection is to identify and report to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, the Reclamation Board and the maintaining agency any conditions, which may diminish channel capacity. In general, maintaining the channels to the condition that existed after the completion of the initial construction will preserve their flood flow characteristics. The standard of comparison for this inspection is, therefore, the condition immediately following construction.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State of California constructed the improved channels and floodways included in this report. The constructing authority issued operation and maintenance manuals to the maintaining agency. The maintaining agencies are the local agencies or the State of California. These agencies have agreed to be responsible for maintenance at the time of project construction or later. The State conducts periodic inspections of the quality of the maintenance accomplished by the maintaining agencies and reports its findings to these agencies. The Division of Flood Management, Flood Operations Branch, Flood Project Inspection Section performs these inspections as present in this report on behalf of The Reclamation Board.

CHAPTER I

PROJECT CHANNELS INSPECTED ON THE SACRAMENTO RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES 2002

ASH CREEK (Maintained by Adin Community Services District)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Ash Creek Channel. Project channel limits begin at the gauging station upstream of State Highway 299 and extend downstream for 1.0 mile. The entire one-mile was inspected. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. Evidence of previous moderate to heavy erosion has occurred along both banks downstream of Ash Street. The log dam located at the downstream boundary was replaced in October 1999 with a concrete dam and fish ladder by the Department of Fish and Game. The District has an excellent maintenance program and no obstructions were noted in the channel.

ASH CREEK



Upstream from Main Street (Highway 299) towards the gauging station.



Downstream from Main Street (Hwy. 299) at the Ash St. low water crossing.

ASH CREEK



Downstream from Ash Street, moderate tree growth and bank erosion.



Downstream at a sharp left bend. Moderate erosion on both banks.

ASH CREEK



Upstream from the downstream limit.



Dam with fish ladder and metal walkway, constructed Oct. 1999 by the Dept. of Fish and Game.

DRY CREEK (Maintained by Adin Community Services District)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Dry Creek channel. The project channel begins at the intersection of Adin and Cedar Streets in Adin and extends downstream for 0.2 miles to its confluence with Ash Creek. The entire 0.2 miles was inspected. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show, all of the growth in the channel. There is light to moderate willow growth along the entire reach of the channel. Channel should be clear of willows before the next flood season.



Downstream from Adin Street, light growth in channel.



Upstream from Main Street (Hwy. 299) moderate growth in channel.

DRY CREEK



Downstream from Main Street (Highway 299), moderate growth in channel.



Downstream from McDowell Street towards Ash Creek, light growth.

McCLURE CREEK (Maintained by Tehama County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the McClure Creek channel. The project channel begins 200 feet upstream of the extension of Truckee Avenue and extends downstream 1.7 miles to 3,700 feet downstream of Road 99W. The views of the channel are from road intersections or crossings and at random distances measured from upstream of the U.S. Highway 99W bridge. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show, all of the growth in the channel. The channel is mostly clear, although in some areas berry vines are beginning to encroach into the channel. The channel will easily carry the required capacity. Clearing of the entire channel was completed in 1996.

McCLURE CREEK



Upstream from extension of Truckee Avenue.



Downstream from extension of Truckee Avenue.

McCLURE CREEK



Upstream from U.S. Highway 99 W Bridge.



Downstream from U.S. Highway 99 W Bridge.

McCLURE CREEK



Downstream approximately 2500 feet downstream of the U.S. Highway 99 Bridge.



Upstream from the downstream limit.

SALT CREEK (Maintained by Tehama County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Salt Creek channel. The project channel begins 1.6 miles upstream of the Sacramento River and extends downstream 1.6 miles to Salt Creek's confluence with the Sacramento River. Inspection was limited to breaks in the dense vegetation, measured randomly with the vehicle distance meter. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all of the growth in the channel. Vegetation on both banks is dense and makes visual inspection difficult. Numerous downed trees and piles of debris in the channel should be removed and the channel should be clear of vegetation growth before the next flood season.

SALT CREEK



Downstream from the upstream limit, Bank vegetation is encroaching on the channel.

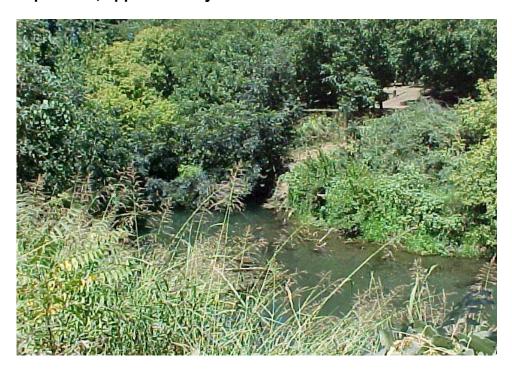


Downstream from the extension of Salt Creek Road, vegetation in the channel.

SALT CREEK



Upstream, approximately 4500 feet from the downstream limit.



Upstream, approximately 2800 feet from the downstream limit.

Dense vegetation on both banks.

SALT CREEK



Approximately 700 feet upstream of the downstream limit.

Dense vegetation along both banks.



Approximately 700 feet upstream from the confluence of the Sacramento River.

BIG CHICO CREEK (Maintained by City of Chico)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Big Chico Creek channel. The project channel begins at the Big Chico Creek Control Structure and extends 22.0 miles downstream to Big Chico Creek's confluence with the Sacramento River. Only 15 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all of the growth in the channel. Heavy amounts of vegetation exist along both banks of this channel. Vines extend across the channel at various locations. Thinning and removal of vegetation upstream of Manzanita Road, removal of snags in various locations along big Chico Creek and the right bank below the extension of Forest Avenue needs to be done before flood season. Little Maintenance has been performed for the past several years.

BIG CHICO CREEK



Downstream from the Big Chico Creek Control Structure.



Upstream from bridge near Forest Ave. Heavy growth along both banks.



Upstream from U.S. Highway 99. Heavy growth along both banks.



Downstream from U.S. Highway 99. Dense vegetation in channel.

BIG CHICO CREEK



Upstream from the Esplanade. Heavy growth on both banks.



Downstream from Highway 32. Heavy growth on both banks.

BIG CHICO CREEK



Upstream approximately 500 feet upstream of the confluence with the Sacramento River.



Downstream towards the confluence with the Sacramento River.

LINDO CHANNEL AND SANDY GULCH (Maintained by State of California)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Lindo Channel and Sandy Gulch. The project channel begins at the Lindo Channel Diversion Structure and extends downstream 13.0 miles to the channel's confluence with Big Chico Creek. Only 10.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all of the growth in the channel. The portion of the channel from Manzanita Avenue to Big Chico Creek has heavy vegetation along both banks, but the channel is clear.

LINDO CHANNEL



Downstream from the Lindo Channel Diversion Structure.



Downstream from Manzanita Avenue.

LINDO CHANNEL



Downstream from the bike path bridge at the extension of Madrone Avenue.

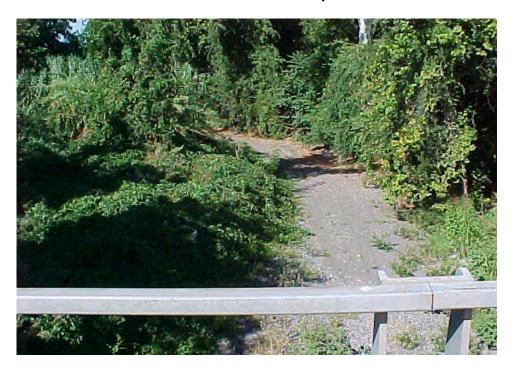


Downstream from 5th Avenue, Chico.

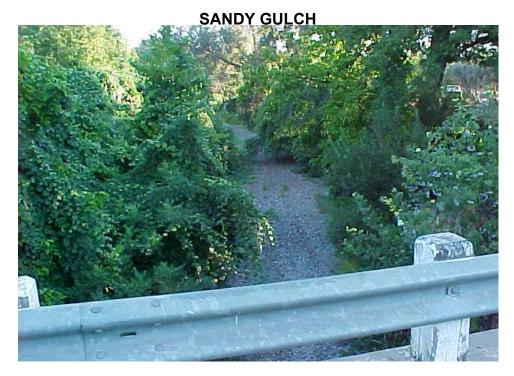
LINDO CHANNEL



Downstream from the Esplanade.



Upstream from State Highway 32.



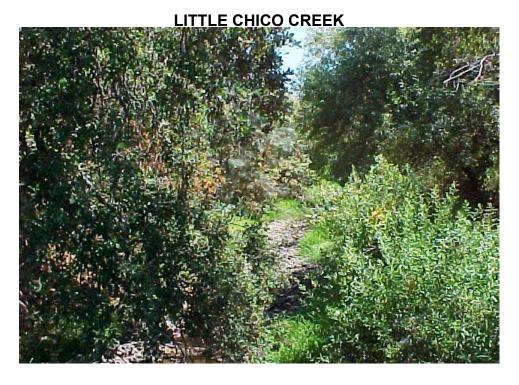
Upstream from Oak Ave, Chico.



Upstream from Grape Way, Chico.

LITTLE CHICO CREEK (Maintained by the City of Chico)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Little Chico Creek channel. The project channel begins at the Little Chico Creek Control and Weir Structure and extends downstream for 18.0 miles to Alberton Road. Only 12.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all of the growth in the channel. Growth between the control structure and Lone Pine Avenue is moderate to heavy along both banks, but channel is clear. Selective thinning and fallen tree removal should be done prior to next flood season.



Downstream from the control structure on Little Chico Creek. Moderate growth in the channel.



Upstream from Bruce Road.

LITTLE CHICO CREEK



Downstream from Forrest Avenue.



Downstream at 2001, repaired erosion on the right bank, approximately 900 feet upstream of U.S. Highway 99.

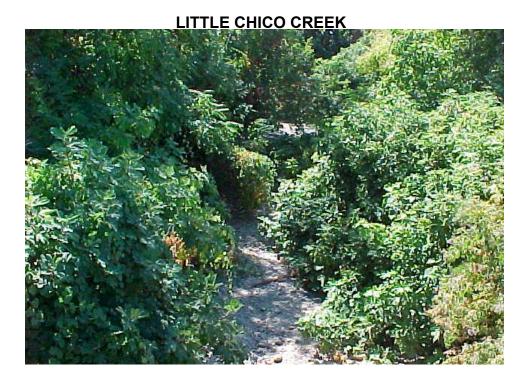
LITTLE CHICO CREEK



Upstream from Boucher Street. Dense growth on both banks.



Downstream from Olive Street.



Downstream from Broadway Street. Dense growth on both banks.



Upstream from Lone Pine Street. Dense growth on both banks.

LITTLE CHICO CREEK



Upstream from Lone Pine Street. Dense vegetation on both banks.

CHAPTER II

PROJECT CHANNELS INSPECTED ON THE TRUCKEE RIVER AND THE FAIRFIELD VICINITY STREAMS

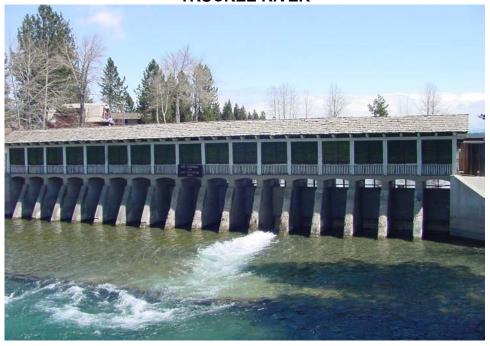
PROJECT CHANNELS PLACER COUNTY October 2002

TRUCKEE RIVER (Maintained by Placer County)

In May 2002, an inspection was made of the Truckee River channel. The project channel begins at the Lake Tahoe Outlet Works and extends downstream for 0.6 mile. The entire 0.6-mile was inspected. The photos on the following pages are typical views of the channel. The channel has minimal vegetative growth and obstructions.

PROJECT CHANNELS PLACER COUNTY September 2002

TRUCKEE RIVER



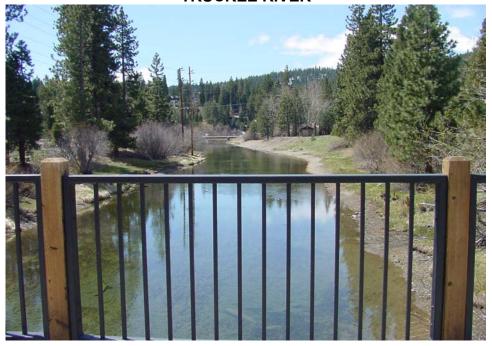
Upstream from Highway 89 bridge toward the outlet structure.



Downstream from Highway 89 bridge.

PROJECT CHANNELS PLACER COUNTY September 2002

TRUCKEE RIVER



Upstream from the bike bridge, 1,100 feet Downstream of the Lake Tahoe Outlet Structure.



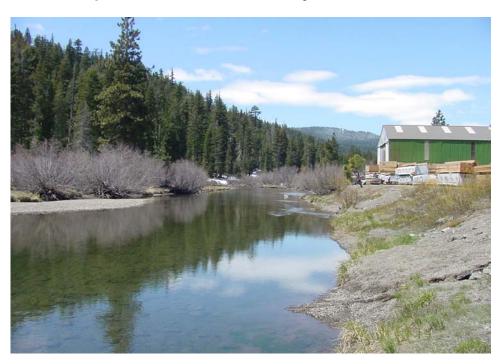
Downstream from the bike bridge.

PROJECT CHANNELS PLACER COUNTY September 2002

TRUCKEE RIVER



Upstream from the Tahoe City Lumber Yard.



Tahoe City Lumber Yard downstream to the project limit.

McCOY CREEK (Maintained by Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the McCoy Creek channel. The project channel begins at Prosperity Lane and extends downstream 1.22 miles To McCoy Creeks' confluence with Buffer Channel. The entire 1.22 miles were Inspected. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. vegetation is minimal and should not effect the flow. The patrol roads should Be sterilized prior to flood season. The maintaining agency has an excellent maintenance program.

McCOY Creek



Downstream from Bella Vista Drive.



Downstream from Emperor Drive.

McCOY Creek



Upstream from Pintail Avenue.



Upstream from Anderson Drive.

LAUREL CREEK (Maintained by Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District)

In September 2002 an inspection was made of the Laurel Creek Channel. The project channel begins at Gulf Drive and extends downstream 2.78 miles to Laurel Creek's confluence with McCoy Creek. The entire 2.78 miles were inspected. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. Vegetation is minimal in the channel and does not affect the flow. Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District has an excellent maintenance program.

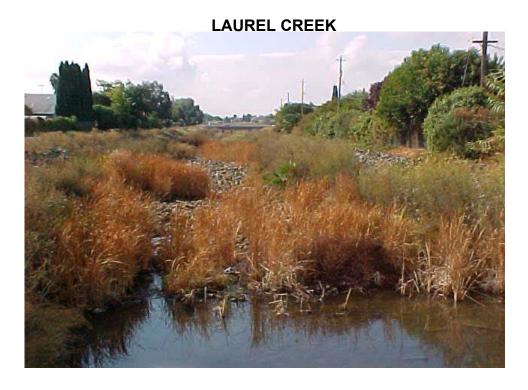
LAUREL CREEK



Upstream from Cement Hill Road towards Gulf Drive.



Downstream from Cement Hill Road.



Downstream from Meadowlark Drive.



Downstream from Blossom Road.

LAUREL CREEK



Downstream from Matthew Road towards railroad culvert under crossing



LAUREL CREEK Downstream from Worley Road towards the confluence with McCoy Creek.

UNION AVENUE DIVERSION (Maintained by Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Union Avenue Diversion Channel. The project channel begins at North Texas Street and extends downstream 0.73 mile to Gulf Drive. The entire 0.73-mile was inspected. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. Vegetation is minimal in the channel and does not affect the flow. Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District has an excellent maintenance program.

UNION AVENUE DIVERSION CHANNEL

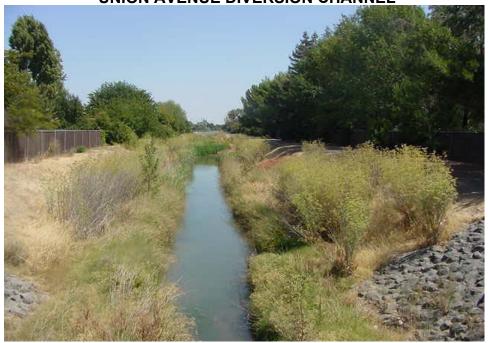


Downstream from North Texas Street.

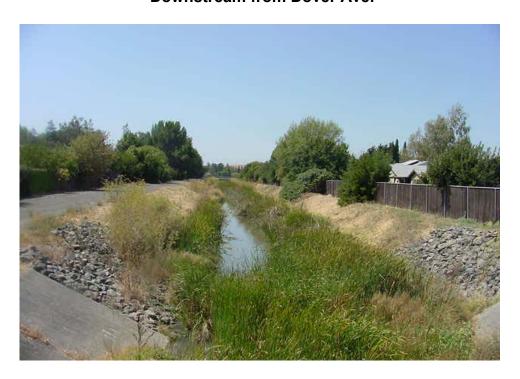


Downstream from Camrose Avenue.

UNION AVENUE DIVERSION CHANNEL



Downstream from Dover Ave.



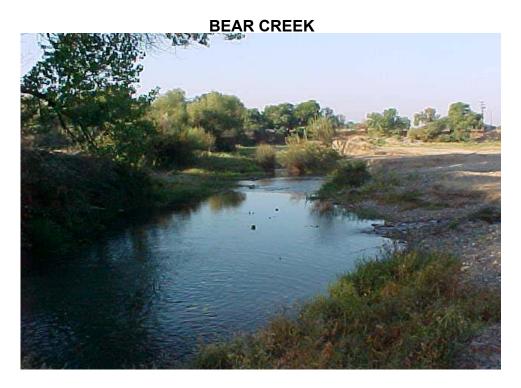
Upstream from the downstream limits at Gulf Drive.

CHAPTER III

PROJECT CHANNELS INSPECTED ON THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

BEAR CREEK (Maintained by the Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Bear Creek. The project channel begins 2.0 miles upstream of the confluence with Burns Creek and extends downstream 21.0 miles to Bert Crane Road. Only 15 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show, all the growth in the channel. Moderate to heavy growth exists along both banks from the confluence with Burns Creek to approximately the Merced City limits. From Franklin Road to Dickerson Ferry Road, the channel and banks are overgrown to the extent that moderate flows could be adversely affected causing bank overflow. A clearing program should be implemented immediately.



Downstream from 0.5 mile upstream of the Bonner Road Bridge.

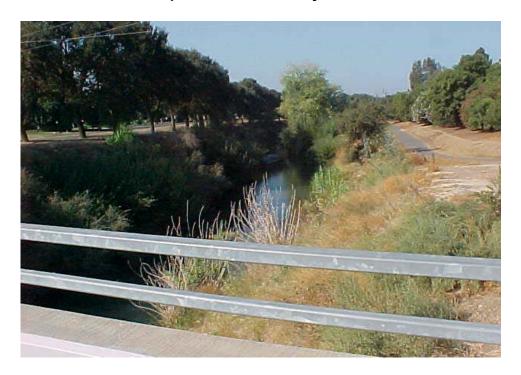


Downstream from Arboleda Drive.

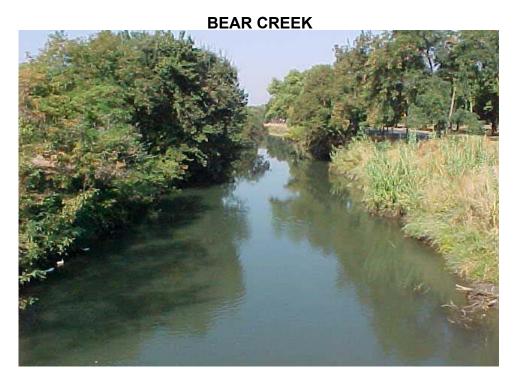
BEAR CREEK



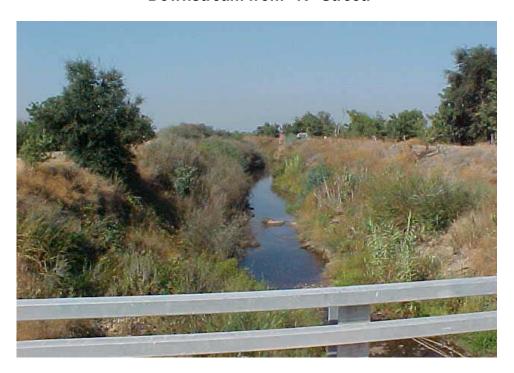
Upstream from Kibby Road.



Downstream from McKee Drive.



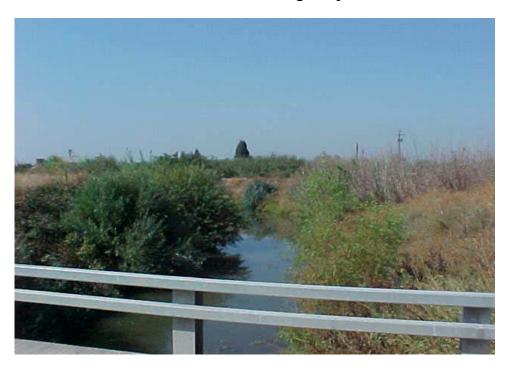
Downstream from "R" Street.



Downstream from Franklin Road.



Downstream from Highway 140



Downstream from Buhach Road.



Upstream from Dickerson Ferry Road.



Upstream from Bert Crane Road.

BLACK RASCAL CREEK (Maintained by the Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Black Rascal Creek Channel. The project channel begins at Crocker Dam and extends downstream 6.5 miles to Black Rascal Creek's confluence with Bear Creek. The entire 6.5 miles were inspected. Views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. The wild growth should be cleared to allow proper design flow.



Downstream from the Crocker



Downstream from Franklin Road

BLACK RASCAL CREEK



Downstream from Highway 140.



Downstream from Oak Avenue.

BLACK RASCAL CREEK



Upstream from Quinley Road.



Upstream at the confluence with Bear Creek.

BURNS CREEK (Maintained by Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

The project channel begins 2.0 miles upstream of Burns Creek's confluence with Bear Creek and extends 2.0 miles downstream to the confluence. Only 1.0 mile of channel could be inspected due to inaccessibility. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. Channel appears to meet design flow capacity.

BURNS CREEK



Upstream from approximately 1 mile Downstream of the upstream limits.



Upstream from the low water crossing.

MARIPOSA CREEK/DUCK SLOUGH (Maintained by the Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Mariposa Creek/Duck Slough channel. The project channel begins 4.0 miles upstream of Fresno Road, and extends downstream for 16.5 miles to Highway 59. Only 12.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. A clearing program should be implemented from Fresno Road to Healy Road.

MARIPOSA CREEK/DUCK SLOUGH



Upstream from White Rock Road.



Downstream from Fresno Road.

MARIPOSA CREEK/DUCK SLOUGH



Upstream from the railroad bridge crossing near Santa Fe Drive.



Downstream from Plainsburg Road.

MARIPOSA CREEK/DUCK SLOUGH



Downstream from Arboleda Road.



Upstream from Healy Road.

MILES CREEK (Maintained by the Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Miles Creek channel. The project channel begins 1.5 miles upstream of Childs Avenue and extends downstream for 12.0 miles to Highway 59. Only 7.0 miles of the channel could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. There is intermittent heavy brush growth throughout the system. The channel is constricted by trees and brush from Reiley Road to the Miles Creek Dam and should be cleared before next flood season.

MILES CREEK



Downstream from Childs Avenue.



Downstream from Santa Fe Drive.

MILES CREEK



Downstream from Arboleda Drive. Blackberry need to be cleared.



Downstream from Healy Road. Brush and undergrowth needs clearing.

MILES CREEK



Upstream from Highway 59.The channel is overgrown with wild growth.

OWENS CREEK (Maintained by the Merced Irrigation District for Merced County)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Owens Creek channel. The project channel begins at Cunningham Road and extends downstream for 2.0 miles to Owens Creek Diversion channel. The entire channel was inspected. Only minor tule growth was found in the channel. A clearing program should be implemented.



Downstream from Cunningham Road.



Downstream from Childs Avenue.

OWENS CREEK



Upstream from the extension of Mission Avenue.

ASH SLOUGH (Maintained by the Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency)

In September 2002, an inspection was made Ash Slough channel. The project channel begins at the Ash and Berenda Slough Bifurcation Structure and extends downstream for 19.0 miles. Only 14.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. There are some willows and bamboo on the banks, but the channel appears to be in satisfactory condition. There has been no apparent maintenance in recent years.

ASH SLOUGH



Downstream from the bifurcation structure.



Upstream from Santa Fe Drive.

ASH SLOUGH



Downstream from Road 19.



Downstream from Avenue 25.

ASH SLOUGH



Upstream towards Highway 152.



Downstream from Road 9.

BERENDA SLOUGH

(Maintained by the Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of Berenda Slough channel. The project channel begins at the Ash and Berenda Slough Bifurcation Structure and extends downstream for 18.5 miles. Only 13.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. The channel has areas of willow and bamboo growth that should be cleared. There appears to have been little to no maintenance performed in the past several years. A clearing program should be implemented.

BERENDA SLOUGH



Downstream from the bifurcation structure.



Downstream from Santa Fe Drive.

BERENDA SLOUGH



Downstream from Avenue 26.



Downstream from Avenue 22.

BERENDA SLOUGH



Downstream from Avenue 21.



Upstream from Avenue 18 ½.

CHOWCHILLA RIVER (Maintained by the Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Chowchilla River channel. The project channel begins at Buchanan Dam and extends downstream for 28.5 miles to Schultz Road. Only 23.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. The channel east of U.S. Highway 99 is through pastureland, trees immediately upstream of Road 19 posing the only constriction. There does not appear to have been any maintenance performed in the past several years. From U.S. Highway 99 downstream there are areas of heavy brush and tree growth that should be cleared.

CHOWCHILLA RIVER



Downstream from Buchanan Dam.



Upstream from Santa Fe Drive.

CHOWCHILLA RIVER



Downstream from Road 13 / Vista Avenue. Dense vegetation in channel should be cleared.



Upstream from Avenue 26. Dense vegetation in channel should be cleared.

CHOWCHILLA RIVER



Downstream from Road 9 Bliss Road. Dense vegetation in channel.



Upstream from Avenue 25 Washington Road.



Upstream from Road 5 ½.

FRESNO RIVER

(Maintained by the Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the Fresno River channel. The project channel begins at Hidden Dam and extends downstream for 13.0 miles to Road 18 $\frac{1}{2}$. Only 9.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. There is some small willow growth in the channel but the maintaining agency does a good job of discing it annually so that the growth is kept under control. The District has an excellent maintenance program.

FRESNO RIVER



Downstream from Road 603 below hidden dam.



Downstream from Cleveland Avenue.

FRESNO RIVER



Downstream from Gateway Drive.



Downstream Granada Avenue.

FRESNO RIVER



Downstream from Road 20.



Upstream from the downstream boundary.

NORTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK

NORTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK (Maintained by the San Joaquin County Flood Control District)

In September 2002 an inspection was made of the North Littlejohn Creek channel. The project channel begins at its bifurcation with South Littlejohn Creek and extends downstream for 18.0 miles to North Littlejohn Creek's confluence with French Camp Slough. Only about 16.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. There are areas, especially at the upper end, that have moderate tree growth in and around the channel which should be trimmed or removed before flood season. Problems with California Department of Fish & Game have precluded the county from doing its required maintenance.

NORTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK



Downstream from the upstream boundary.



Downstream from Van Allen Road. Dense vegetation in channel.

NORTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK



Upstream from Jack Tone Road.



Upstream from Mariposa Road.

DUCK CREEK DIVERSION CHANNEL (Maintained by the San Joaquin County Flood Control District)

In September 2002 an inspection was made of the Duck Creek Diversion channel. The project channel begins at the Duck Creek Diversion Weir and Control Structure and extends downstream for 5,000 feet to its confluence with South Littlejohn Creek. All 5,000 feet were inspected. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The channel is clear of any growth.

DUCK CREEK DIVERSION CHANNEL

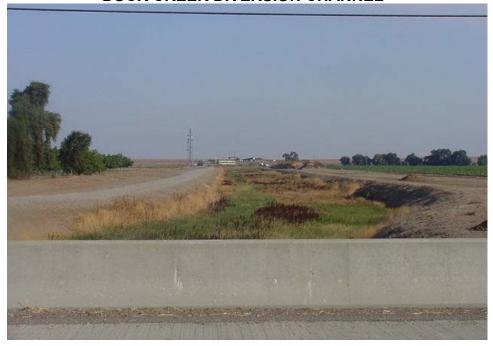


Upstream towards diversion structure on Duck Creek From a point 150 feet downstream.



Downstream from the diversion structure.

DUCK CREEK DIVERSION CHANNEL



Upstream from Farmington Road / Hwy. 4.



Downstream from Farmington Road / Hwy. 4.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK (Maintained by the San Joaquin County Flood Control District)

In September 2002 an inspection was made of the South Littlejohn Creek channel. The project channel begins at Farmington Dam and extends downstream for 21.7 miles to South Littlejohn Creek's confluence with Lone Tree Creek. Only about 17.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. The channel is mostly clear, but there is an occasional tree in the channel that should be removed.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK



Downstream from the confluence with Duck Creek.



Upstream from Stanley Road.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK



Downstream from Van Allen Road.



Downstream from Mariposa Road.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK



Upstream from Jack Tone Road.

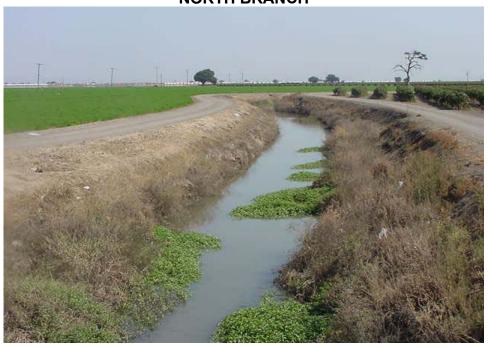


Upstream from Austin Road.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK, NORTH BRANCH (Maintained by the San Joaquin County Flood Control District)

In September 2002, an inspection was made of the South Littlejohn Creek, North Branch channel. The project channel begins at bifurcation with South Littlejohn Creek and extends downstream for 6.1 miles to U.S. Highway 99. Only about 5.0 miles could be inspected due to limited access. The views of the channel are primarily at road crossings. The photos on the following pages are typical of, but do not show all the growth in the channel. The channel is mostly clear and a maintenance program should be implemented on the remaining channel.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK NORTH BRANCH



Upstream from Austin Road.



Downstream from Austin Road.

SOUTH LITTLEJOHN CREEK NORTH BRANCH



Upstream from Jack Tone Road.



Downstream from Jack Tone Road.